

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of March 12 - March 16, 2007**

1. **Indictments (Wards 2 and 3):** On March 15, the Criminal Investigations Division secured a grand jury indictment against a Prince George's County resident for two counts of 1st degree burglary and two counts of theft over \$500.00 relating to residential burglaries which were closed by arrest. *(Police)*
2. **Police Graduation:** On March 22, at 3:00pm, Cadets Jordan and Robinson will be graduating from the University of Maryland Police Academy. All City employees are invited to attend the ceremony which will be conducted at the University of Maryland Alumni Center on the College Park Campus. *(Police)*
3. **Traffic Enforcement (Wards 2, 3, & 4):** Officers conducted at least 166 traffic stops this week, 136 of which ended in written citations, and four (4) impounds. More than half of the stops were made on New Hampshire, Flower, Carroll and Maple Avenues. *(Police)*
4. **Invitation to Play:** The Takoma Park Recreation Department has been invited to participate in a regional basketball tournament this Sunday, March 17, at Catholic University. A group of Y.E.S. League players (13 and under) have been practicing as a team for the last two weeks in preparation for the one-day, three-game tournament. A total of 16 teams from the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan Area are competing - we know our team will represent Takoma Park with impeccable sportsmanship, team unity and extraordinary talent. Coaches Sean Hayes and James Seals, Recreation Department employees, are volunteering their time and leadership. Their effort in bringing the team together is invaluable! *(Recreation)*
5. **The Future Generation:** On February 19, 2007, Simon Moore and Darielle Warley of the Recreation Department took 13 high school teenagers to visit two universities in Pennsylvania: Lincoln University and Cheyney University. The tour guides for each school shared valuable information such as the various majors at the school, how to qualify for scholarships and what S.A.T scores and GPA's they needed to qualify for certain scholarships. The teens were delighted to learn more about campus life such as history, athletics, fraternities and sororities, and academics. More trips are planned in the near future. *(Recreation)*
6. **First Time Home Buyer Seminars (City-wide):** The City will be conducting two "First Time Home Buyer" Seminars this spring. The first, to be conducted in Spanish, will take place on Saturday, April 14, from 8:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. On May 19, at the same location and time, the seminar will be conducted in English. For further information or to register for either seminar, please call Linda Walker at 301.891.7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*
7. **Tenant Association Summit To Be Held April 21 (City-wide):** Tenant Associations and all tenants interested in forming a tenant association are invited to attend the second Tenant Association Summit, which will be held on April 21 from 10am-2pm at the Takoma Park Community Center. The City's community organizers have assisted many tenants in the past few years to organize their own associations, so this is the right place and time for you to meet with other tenants to discuss issues of common

concern. Interested parties can contact Linda Walker at 301.891.7222 to register or to obtain more information. (*Housing and Community Development*)

8. The Chief in Meetings: On March 12, Chief Ricucci met with Chief Thomas Manger, Montgomery County Department of Police, and discussed mutual issues of concern. Also on this date, the Chief met with Steve King, Director of Wackenhut Security, to establish a relationship with the agency since they are based in Takoma Park. On March 13, the Chief and Capt. Ed Coursey met with Commander Kevin Davis, Prince George's County Police, Hyattsville District, to discuss mutual concerns about the CSAFE initiative. Chief Ricucci and Capt. Coursey also attended the Old Town Business Association Meeting and spoke to over 30 business owners about their concerns and praises for the current operational detail in Old Town. On March 14, Chief Ricucci attended a briefing of the City Council by the Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee. Then on March 15, along with City Manager Barbara Mathews, Chief Ricucci attended a luncheon sponsored by Councilmember Terry Seamens for the seniors at Franklin Apartments. (*Police*)

9. Officers in Training: On March 14, Lt. Collington, Sgts. Bowers and Frishkorn, Cpls. Roush and Carter, PFCs Holmes and Petersen, Ms. Diana Dean, Ms. Linda Fisher and PEO Roberto Rojas attended the Local Government Insurance Trust Defensive Driver Training Program at the Takoma Park Recreation Center. On March 15, D/Sgt. Poole attended training titled "New Wave, Old Crimes" at the Prince George's County Municipal Academy. (*Police*)

10. Request for State Funding: Mayor Kathy Porter, Councilmember Colleen Clay and staff member Suzanne Ludlow went to Annapolis on Saturday, March 10 to request State funding for Phase III of the Takoma Park Community Center. The major component of Phase III would be a gymnasium. The Top Ten Reasons to give money to Takoma Park routine went over well, but money is extremely tight in Annapolis this year. The City should hear in early April if funds are granted. (*Community & Government Liaison*)

11. Other Legislative Matters: The proposed bill to prohibit municipalities from having rent control has been withdrawn by its sponsors. It may come back next year. Also, Mayor Kathy Porter testified in front of the House of Delegates on Tuesday, March 13 in favor of allowing municipalities to aggregate electrical energy to better serve their residents. The bill has been a priority of the City of Takoma Park and is also a priority of the Maryland Municipal League. (*Community & Government Liaison*)

12. FCC Impacts: Communications Manager Lonni Moffet attended the NATOA Regional Legal and Policy Seminar in Alexandria VA last week. The FCC has issued an Order which will impact the relationship between local jurisdictions (franchising authorities) and cable operators. While primarily addressing the issue of "barriers to entry" to new entrants, the FCC has also issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to address the issue of incumbents. At this time, it is not clear what the impact will be on the City in the short or long term, or the impact on franchises the City has with three competitors. A number of local government associations have banded together to challenge the FCC's authority to enact this kind of policy. More information may be obtained about this at <http://www.thetruthontelecomreform.org>. (*CityTV*)

13. **Snapshots:** The March edition of Snapshots is now available on line at www.takomaparkmd.gov. Topics this month include Community Policing - A Look Back (First Female Officer); Meet New Ward 5 Councilmember Reuben Snipper; The GYM: What Do You Think, Takoma Park?; Going Green At Home; and Jazz Band Brawl Highlights. (*CityTV*)

14. **Street Improvements (Ward 2):** Work has begun on the traffic calming installation at the intersection of Elm Avenue at Auburn and Lincoln. The project is expected to take several weeks. Resurfacing of the street is scheduled for early April. (*Public Works*)

15. **Sidewalk Improvements (Ward 5):** Failed sidewalk has been replaced in the 900 block of Houston Avenue. (*Public Works*)